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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/49/50/Rev.1.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-eighth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 48/47 of 10 December 1993 concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In paragraph 19 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including that resolution, since the circulation of his previous report.

2. In letters dated 18 and 31 May 1994, the Secretary-General transmitted the text of the resolution to the executive heads of the following specialized agencies and international institutions forming part of or associated with the United Nations, and invited them to submit the information requested for inclusion in the report referred to in the above paragraph:

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

World Food Programme (WFP)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Bank

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

League of Arab States (LAS)

Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Organization of American States (OAS)

3. Given below are summaries of the replies received by the Secretary-General from the international organizations concerned in response to the above-mentioned letters.

4. Summaries of additional replies received, together with such further information as may become available on relevant activities undertaken by the organizations concerned during the year, will be circulated in addenda to the present report.

5. In addition, the Secretary-General transmitted the text of the resolution to the various departments and other units of the United Nations Secretariat. Information received in that regard is also set out in the report.

II. REPLIES FROM THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FORMING PART OF OR ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

[Original: English]

[20 June 1994]

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has a number of technical assistance activities of particular interest to non-self-governing island countries. The following TRAINFORTRADE projects are being prepared or are under implementation:

A regional training project in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) region has just started to be implemented. This project will involve training events in trade-related subjects for the eight countries and territories of the group, either at the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College (St. Lucia), or in a decentralized manner in any of the member States. The

latter include Montserrat (full member) and the British Virgin Islands (associate member). It is envisaged that invitations to benefit from these training events will also be extended to Anguilla at no cost to the project.

A project for countries not members of OECS and territories of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is in preparation and is expected to begin before the end of this year. The project will benefit the Turks and Caicos Islands as a member of CARICOM.

A regional project in preparation concerns the countries of the Pacific that are members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and is also expected to begin before the end of this year. Member States of the Forum Secretariat which are not ACP States may receive courtesy invitations to participate in training events at no additional cost to the project. This concerns Tokelau, which is under the administration of New Zealand.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

[Original: English]

[1 and 14 June 1994]

Tokelau

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Third Country Programme for Tokelau for the period 1992-1996 is currently half-way into its duration with a total UNDP budget of $1,113,000. UNDP-assisted projects and programme activities have, in the past, concentrated primarily on the improvement of water supplies, human resources development and technical training, energy, telecommunications and disaster preparedness and have had a positive impact in those and related fields.

The current country programme is focusing on telecommunications and continued assistance for management capacity-building and/or water supplies. A project formulation mission for a telecommunications development project, comprising consultants from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), was fielded recently to prepare a draft project document, which is expected to be approved in the second half of 1994. The project, which will assist in the installation of three satellite earth stations for inter-atoll telecommunications, as well as in the training of Tokelauan personnel for the system's operation, will be funded by a UNDP contribution of about $500,000 for the technical assistance component with significant capital costs being borne by the Government of New Zealand. Technical advice on the feasibility of this project in its earlier stages was received from the Pacific regional telecommunications project (RAS/92/332).

Also under the country programme, UNDP has been providing assistance to Tokelau in connection with the transfer of its administration from Apia, Western Samoa, to Tokelau itself, which took place in January 1994, in line with the aspirations of the people of Tokelau to move towards a greater degree of self-government.

Tokelau benefits from participation in the UNDP Pacific regional and subregional programmes. In particular, it participated in the planning and implementation of the Pacific Multi-Island Programme (PMI/90/002), which is executed by the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and which resulted in the formulation of the Tokelau National Environment Management Strategy.

UNDP also provided emergency assistance to Tokelau in the wake of the devastating Cyclone Ofa in 1990. Through a cyclone rehabilitation project funded under the UNDP Special Programme Resources (SPR), begun in 1991, seawalls that were severely damaged during Cyclone Ofa and Hurricane Val in 1991 at a total cost of $300,000 from SPR funds.

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Palau)

The UNDP First Country Programme for Palau, a programme of assistance for the period 1993-1996, is described in document DP/CP/PLU/1. It was approved by the Governing Council of UNDP in June 1993. It made provision for $327,000 in technical assistance resources in the form of a regular indicative planning figure (IPF) allocated to the country. The first country programme will be reviewed jointly by UNDP and the Government in 1995. In this regard, depending on the global financial situation, UNDP may be able to mobilize additional resources through the granting of an independence bonus for Palau.

At present, the allocated IPF is fully programmed under two projects in the areas of (a) development policy and strategy and (b) sustainable resources management. Close to 80 per cent of the programmable resources of UNDP is being devoted to the formulation and implementation of the Palau Master Development Plan, which UNDP funds jointly and in collaboration with the United States of America. In terms of impact, it is expected that the Master Development Plan will provide the Government with a framework and set of policy guidelines for sustainable economic growth, utilizing the funding to become available under the Compact of Free Association. The remaining resources are devoted to family food production and nutrition (TTP/91/060), which project was approved in 1992 and will be ongoing throughout the fifth cycle.

Palau also benefits from the UNDP Pacific Multi-Island Programme. This programme of assistance for the period 1993-1996 is described in document DP/CP/PMI/1. It makes provision for $5,285,000 in technical cooperation resources. In addition, Palau participates in the UNDP fifth cycle (1992-1996) Subregional Programme for the Pacific, which provides technical cooperation to Palau in the areas of food production and nutrition and natural resources management (energy, fisheries, forestry). Finally, Palau is expected to be a beneficiary of the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme, which is funded by the Global Environment Facility and implemented by UNDP. The programme is designed to promote the long-term ecological sustainability of designated conservation areas.

Non-Self-Governing Territories

UNDP provides assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific region, in line with the provisions of relevant General Assembly resolutions.

Assistance is provided through the UNDP Subregional Programme for the Pacific in conjunction with several Pacific regional institutions. These include SPREP and the South Pacific Commission (SPC), which are, in some cases, the executing agents for UNDP-assisted subregional projects in the areas of environment and natural resource management, fisheries, agriculture, plant protection and health and nutrition.

Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific have been able to benefit from these and other programmes mainly through participation in seminars and workshops organized at the subregional or country level under these programmes.

UNDP maintains very close relations with the Pacific regional institutions, participating as an observer in almost all their meetings. SPC and SPREP include all the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific. UNDP is therefore in a position to respond to the concerns of these Territories that are raised through these institutions.

Anguilla

The UNDP Second Country Programme for Anguilla, a programme of assistance for the period 1992-1996, is described in document DP/CP/ANL/2. It was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in May 1992. The total resources for this programme are $1,466,000, which includes the IPF allocation of $1,266,000 and cost-sharing commitments of $200,000.

In addition, Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat, as associate members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), benefit from the Fifth Multi-island Programme (1992-1996) for the Eastern Caribbean, described in document DP/CP/CAR/5, which was also approved by the Governing Council in May 1992. The UNDP IPF resources for this programme amount to $4 million.

Bermuda

Bermuda, with a per capita income of $10,280 in 1983 and $22,260 in 1989, has been affected by Net Contributor Country provisions. Accordingly, Bermuda has not been issued an IPF for the UNDP fifth programming cycle. However, by decision 91/29 of the UNDP Governing Council adopted on 25 June 1991, Bermuda, like other Net Contributor Countries, is entitled to participate in other components of the UNDP programme, including projects financed from the regional and interregional indicative planning figures and special programme resources.

British Virgin Islands

A UNDP programme of assistance for the British Virgin Islands for the period 1994-1996 is expected to be submitted to the UNDP Executive Board in October 1994. The British Virgin Islands, with a per capita income of $7,400 in 1989, has been affected by Net Contributor Country provisions during the UNDP fifth programming cycle. Accordingly, the British Virgin Islands have been issued an IPF of $102,000 for the period 1992-1996. In addition, by decision 91/29 of the UNDP Governing Council, the British Virgin Islands, like other Net Contributor Countries, is entitled to participate in other components of the

UNDP programme, including projects financed from the regional and interregional indicative planning figures and Special Programme Resources.

Cayman Islands

The UNDP Third Country Programme for the Cayman Islands, a programme of assistance for the period 1993-1996, is described in document DP/CP/CAY/3. It was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in February 1993. The total resources for this programme are $1,439,000, which includes the IPF allocation of $145,000 and cost-sharing commitments of $1,294,000.

Montserrat

The UNDP Third Country Programme for Montserrat, a programme of assistance for the period 1992-1996, is described in document DP/CP/MOT/3. It was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in May 1992. The total resources for this programme are $569,000, which includes the IPF allocation of $539,000 and cost-sharing commitments of $30,000.

St. Helena

For St. Helena, UNDP resources will target three areas of concentration, namely, the universal pension scheme, tourist development and the livestock development programme.

Turks and Caicos Islands

The UNDP Third Country Programme for the Turks and Caicos Islands, a programme of assistance for the period 1993-1996, is described in document DP/CP/TCI/3. It was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in February 1993. The IPF resources allocated by UNDP for this programme amount to $971,000. UNDP continues to be the main source of technical assistance for the Turks and Caicos Islands. Following talks between UNDP and the Government on development priorities, UNDP will, under the ongoing country programme, provide, inter alia, training to develop administrative management skills, and assistance in environmental management. In the latter activity, UNDP will address the issues of water management, sewage disposal and reduction of the impact of the tourist industry on the environment.

In addition, Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands are beneficiaries of the UNDP Fourth Regional Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean, a programme of assistance described in document DP/RLA/4. Under the Caribbean component of this regional programme, UNDP has made provision for technical assistance in the amount of $7 million to benefit the countries of CARICOM.

In recognition of the specific characteristics which exacerbate the vulnerabilities of small island economies, the programmes place emphasis on UNDP support for human resources development, poverty alleviation, strengthening institutional capacities for managing development processes, environment and natural resources management, and disaster response management.

With respect to the Programme of Action ensuing from the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994, a major grant for the Caribbean was recently approved by UNDP from its Capacity 21 Programme. The grant will assist in strengthening capacities to manage and implement sustainable development plans and programmes at the national and regional levels in the Caribbean.

Support for two other aspects of the Programme of Action are also receiving UNDP attention: (a) a feasibility study of the establishment of a collaborative network (SIDS/NET) to facilitate access by small island developing States to vital information and (b) a study of the feasibility of a technical assistance programme (SIDS/TAP) to promote inter- and intraregional cooperation on sustainable development.